

Refer in reply to the following:

Copy

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

WASHINGTON,

April 3, 1890.

The Honorable

Secretary of the Interior.

Sir:

I have the honor to be in receipt of your request of the 28th ultimo, for a statement as to the purpose for which a proposed Indian medal is to be cast, the design having been prepared by the Indian Bureau.

On the 29th of January last, the Office addressed a communication to the Department saying that some Otoe Indians, then in this city, requested that five medals be furnished them, at their expense, - the medals to be round, not less than $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, and to bear the vignette of President Harrison. Some time thereafter the Director of the Mint called at this Office and requested that the Office prepare a design for the medal. A design was prepared and forwarded to the Director with the following statement:

"The designs hitherto used for the reverse of the medal do not appropriately represent the present status of the Indian, and in the enclosed rough design an attempt is made to give the idea that he has abandoned his tepee and has adopted a civilized house and occupation. Your professional expert will doubtless find many

"imperfections in this design which he can remove x x x .As I understand it you desire from this Office only a suggestion of the design to be adopted."

There is no professional artist in the Indian Bureau. If it is deemed best that a design be prepared by an expert the Office will ascertain the cost thereof and submit an estimate accordingly.

Respectfully,

T. J. Morgan,

Commissioner.

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 162

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Office of Indian Affairs,
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On the 29th of January last, the Office addressed a communication to the Department saying that some Otoe Indians, then in this city, requested that five medals be furnished them, at their expense, - the medals to be round, not less than 2 ½ inches in diameter, and to bear the vignette of President Harrison. Some time thereafter the Director of the Mint called at this Office and requested that the Office prepare a design for the medal. A design was prepared and forwarded to the Director with the following statement:

“The designs hitherto used for the reverse of the medal do not appropriately represent the present status of the Indian, and in the enclosed rough design an attempt is made to give the idea that he has abandoned his tepee and has adopted a civilized house and occupation. Your professional expert will doubtless find many imperfections in this design which he can remove x x x . As I understand it you desire from this Office only a suggestion of the design to be adopted.”

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